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Message Text

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43
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 ACDA-10

MC-02 SCCT-01 SAM-01 SAB-01 IO-13 TRSE-00 /102 W
---------- 032885
R 271345Z JUL 76
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5557
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

UNCLAS CAIRO 10054

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, SY, UR
SUBJECT: ROSE AL-YUSUF: BREZHNEV'S "SECRET MESSAGE TO ASAD

LEFTIST WEEKLY ROSE AL-YUSUF JULY 26 FEATURES ARTICLE ENTITLED:
"BREZHNEV'S SECRET MESSAGE TO ASAD." EMBASSY TRANSLATION FOLLOWS.

BEGIN TEXT

IMPORTANT PARAGRAPHS OF BREZHNEV'S SECRET MESSAGE TO SYRIAN
PRESIDENT ASAD HAVE LEAKED OUT.

FIRST PARAGRAPH OF BREZHNEV'S MESSAGE DEALT WITH THE SYRIANS'
STAND WHEN THEY SEIZED THE OPPORTUNITY OF KOSYGIN'S VISIT TO DAMASCUS
AND SENT THEIR FORCES TO LEBANON. SYRIANS GAVE KOSYGIN TO UNDER
STAND THAT THEY ONLY SENT SMALL SYMBOLIC FORCES TO HELP IN
MAINTAINING SECURITY.

BREZHNEV'S MESSAGE SAID THIS ATTITUDE ON PART OF SYRIANS WAS
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DECEPTIVE AND THAT THE ALLEGATIONS OF FONMIN KHADDAM WERE UNTRUE

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ANDINACCURATE.

SECOND PARAGRAPH OF BREZHNEV'S MESSAGE SAID: WE BELIEVE YOU MUST WITHDRAW AT ONCE FROM LEBANON. THIS WITHDRAWAL HAS BECOME INEVITABLE AND NECESSARY. SOVIET UNION CONSIDERS HERSELF COMMITTED TO ADOPT FIRM STAND AGAINST LIQUIDATION ATTEMPTS WHICH ARE NOW BEING MADE AGAINST PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE AND LEBANESE NATIONALIST MOVEMENT.

THIRD PARAGRAPH INFORMED PRESIDENT ASAD OF THE DECISIONS WHICH THE SOVIET COMMAND WOULD CARRY OUT IF SYRIA INSISTED ON HER STAND. THESE DECISIONS INCLUDE:

(A) WITHDRAWAL OF SOVIET MILITARY EXPERTS IN CHARGE OF THE SOVIET ARMS WHICH ARE NOW USED IN A TRAGIC AND PAINFUL WAY IN LEBANON.

(B) ABSTENTION FROM SUPPLYING SYRIA WITH SPARE PARTS AGREED UPON SO LONG AS SYRIA WASTES THE ARMS SHE RECEIVED TO USE IN FIGHTING ISRAEL AND IN DEFENDING HER TERRITORY.

NO INFORMATION HAS SO FAR BEEN RECEIVED CONCERNING SYRIA'S REACTION TO THIS MESSAGE, WHICH WAS DESCRIBED AS VERY SHARPLY WORDED. HOWEVER, WELL-INFORMED SYRIAN SOURCES SAID THAT THE MESSAGE PLACED DAMASCUS IN A CRITICAL SITUATION BECAUSE THE US TOLD SYRIA THAT SHE WILL GIVE HER ONE MONTH TO ACCOMPLISH MISSION AGREED UPON, NAMELY: BRING PALESTINIAN RESISTANCE AND LEBANESE NATIONALIST FORCES UNDER CONTROL PRIOR TO CARRYING OUT SETTLEMENT AGREED UPON, NAMELY, THE PARTITION OF LEBANON.

SYRIAN SOURCES SAY THAT STATEMENTS MADE IN DAMASCUS ABOUT CONCILIATION WITH THE PALESTINIANS ONLY AIM AT LULLING PALESTINIANS INTO FALSE SENSE OF SECURITY UNTIL SYRIA IS ABLE TO DEAL THE DEATH BLOW, AND THAT A PLAN HAS ALREADY BEEN DRAWN UP TO OCCUPY BEIRUT.

IN A STATEMENT TO ROSE AL-YUSUF'S REPORTER BAK AL-SHARQAWI, PALESTINIAN LEADER ABU IYAD SAID: I ADVISE THE SYRIANS NOT TO COME NEAR BEIRUT FOR THERE ARE 4000 NATIONALIST AND PALESTINIAN POSITIONS IN THE LEBANESE CAPITAL. ITS MEN ARE READY TO FIGHT AND WILL TEAR TO SHREDS THE SYRAIN FORCES, REGARDLESS OF THEIR
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EQUIPMENT, BECAUSE THE LATTER HAS NO EXPERIENCE IN STREET BATTLES.

ABU IYAD ADDED THAT THEY HAVE INFORMATION ON THE PERIOD GIVEN TO THE SYRIANS BY THE USA TO OCCUPY BEIRUT, AND THE SYRIANS WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO ACHIEVE THIS EVEN IF PERIOD WERE EXTENDED TEN TIMES. END TEXT.
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